

IN THE CLAIMS:

1 1-2. (Cancelled)

1 3. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 8, further comprising, prior
2 to transmission, compressing said data in a category if a certain priority has been allocated.

1 4. (Cancelled)

1 5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 8, wherein said data is
2 transmitted in packets, each packet containing data of different categories, the method further
3 comprising monitoring a packet to be sent and if space remains in such a packet, the space being
4 insufficient to accommodate data allocated a relatively high priority, incorporating lower priority
5 data into the space prior to transmission.

1 6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 8, wherein at least some of
2 said categories are chosen from background game playing data, real time game playing data,
3 receiver maintenance information, and receiver enablement/disablement instructions.

1 7. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 8, wherein said data is
2 transmitted in conjunction with a TV broadcast signal.

1 8. (Currently Amended) A method of providing services in conjunction with a TV
2 broadcast system, wherein data relating to a number of different categories of services is
3 transmitted in conjunction with a TV broadcast signal from a central location to a number of
4 remote receivers, the method comprising:

5 allocating a priority to the data to be transmitted in accordance with its category,
6 the priorities defining a relationship between the different categories of the data;
7 transmitting the data in a manner determined by the allocated priorities;
8 while data is being transmitted, monitoring at the central location the data
9 remaining to be transmitted to determine whether the remaining data will be transmitted within a
10 satisfactory predetermined time period; and
11 if any of the remaining data will not be transmitted within the predetermined time
12 period, changing the priority of the remaining data so that it will be transmitted within the
13 predetermined time period.

1 9. (Original) A method according to claim 8, wherein at least one of said service
2 categories is an interactive service.

1 10. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for providing services in conjunction with a TV
2 broadcast system by transmitting data, relating to a number of different categories, from a central
3 location to at least one remote receiver, the apparatus comprising:

4 a processing system at the central location for allocating a priority to the data to
5 be transmitted in accordance with its category, the priorities defining a relationship between the
6 different categories of the data, while data is being transmitted, the processing system monitoring
7 the data at the central location remaining to be transmitted and determining whether the
8 remaining data will be transmitted within a satisfactory predetermined time period, and if any of
9 the remaining data will not be transmitted within the predetermined time period, changing the
10 priority of the remaining data so that it will be transmitted within the predetermined time period;
11 and

12 means for transmitting the data in a manner determined by the allocated priorities.

1 11. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 10, the apparatus further comprising
2 means for combining the data with a broadcast TV signal for transmission to at least one remote
3 receiver.

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1 12. (Previously Presented) A method according claim 8, wherein the data of each
2 category is stored at a different address in a store, the addresses of the data being stored in a
3 pointer store in order of their priority, wherein the data to be transmitted is selected by obtaining
4 the address at the location in the pointer store, corresponding to the highest priority.

1 13. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 12, wherein changing the
2 priority of data comprises adjusting the position in the pointer store of the address of the data
3 whose priority is changed.
